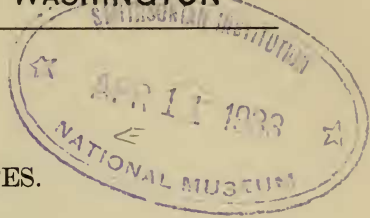


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



GENERAL NOTES.

THE LOUISIANA HERON IN THE WASHINGTON, D. C., REGION.

After a lapse of five years, the Louisiana heron, *Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis* (Gosse), has reappeared in the Washington region. It was first recorded locally by Miss Marion J. Pellew, August 25, 1922, at Alexander Island, Virginia. From then to the 29th of that month it was seen by several observers. It was seen again in 1926 and 1927 by several observers (Cooke, M. T., Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. 42, p. 25, Mar., 1929). No birds were collected in the above instances.

On August 21, 1932, one immature bird in company with a snowy egret and a number of little blue herons was observed and collected at Hunting Creek, Alexandria, Virginia. On August 25, a flock of four immature birds was observed at the same locality and three of the number were collected for the U. S. National Museum and Biological Survey collections. What was believed to be the remaining individual was seen at least once each week until September 18, feeding along shore or standing on floating masses of wild celery, *Vallisneria spiralis*, farther out on the water.

—Clarence Cottam, Leon Kelso, and W. Howard Ball.

EARLY RECORD OF AN ALBINO OTTER (*LUTRA CANADENSIS*).

In a manuscript diary in our custody entitled "Journal of a Voyage to the Eastward, with his Excel'y Gov'r Belcher To hold a Conference with the Several Tribes of Indians There" an entry under the date of Monday, July 17, 1732, states that Arexes, speaker for the Penobscutt Tribe, after words of greeting to Gov. Belcher, "laid down a White Otters Skin, &c." in token of Amity.

The official minutes of the conference, published in Boston in 1732 as a twenty-three page pamphlet entitled "A Conference of His Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Esq., Captain General and Governour in Chief of His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, with Ede-wakenk Chief Sachem of the Penobscut Tribe," etc., cover the proceedings only from Monday, July 24, to Saturday, July 29, and there is no mention therein of the albino otter.

—Leila G. Forbes and Hugh Upham Clark
(communicated by Austin H. Clark).